

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. In the Office Action of November 7, 2005, the Examiner made the following disposition:

- A.) Acknowledged claim of priority.
- B.) Objected to the specification.
- C.) Rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.
- D.) Rejected claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Bianco, et al.*

Applicants address the Examiner's disposition below.

A.) Acknowledgment of claim of priority:

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's acknowledgement of Applicants' claim of priority.

As per the Examiner's request, Applicants submit herewith a substitute specification in which Applicants identify Applicants' claim of priority. A marked-up version of the changes made to the substitute specification by the current amendment is also submitted herewith. The attached marked-up substitute specification is captioned "**SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION - VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**". No new matter is added by the amendments made herein.

Applicants respectfully submit the objection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

B.) Objection to the specification:

The abstract of the disclosure has been amended as per the Examiner's request to overcome the objection. The amendment to the abstract of the disclosure has been incorporated into the substitute specification submitted herewith. A marked-up version of the changes made to the substitute specification by the current amendment is also submitted herewith. The attached marked-up substitute specification is captioned "**SUBSTITUTE SPECIFICATION - VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**". No new matter is added by the amendments made herein.

Applicants are not aware of any other informalities in the specification.

Applicants respectfully submit the objection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

C.) Rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph:

Claims 1-7, 9, 11-18, 20, and 22-27 have been amended as per the Examiner's request to overcome the rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

D.) Rejection of claims 1-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Bianco, et al.*:

Applicants respectfully disagree with the rejection.

Applicants' independent claims 1, 12, 22, and 27, each as amended, each claim subject matter relating to an information processing apparatus that performs person authentication and a person identification certificate authority that issues person identification certificates. A person authentication process is performed by comparing a template extracted from a person identification certificate and user input sampling information. The information processing apparatus outputs a request for issuing a person identification certificate to the person identification certificate authority when a person identification certificate corresponding to a user input information cannot be extracted. In other words, the information processing apparatus requests a person identification certificate when one that corresponds to the user input information is not stored locally at the information processing apparatus.

This is clearly unlike *Bianco*, which stores all templates at a remote server. In *Bianco*, every biometric device obtains a template from a server. Nowhere does *Bianco* disclose or suggest an information processing apparatus that requests a person identification certificate when one that corresponds to user input information is not stored locally at the information processing apparatus. Instead, *Bianco* always requests a template from a remote server. Thus, for at least this reason, *Bianco* fails to disclose or suggest claims 1, 12, 22, and 27.

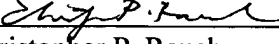
Claims 2-11, 13-21, and 23-26 depend directly or indirectly from claims 1, 12, or 22 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons that claims 1, 12, and 22 are allowable.

Applicants respectfully submit the rejection has been overcome and request that it be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-27 are patentable. It is therefore submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

 (Reg. No. 45,034)
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